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SECURITY INFORMATION

APR 11 1952

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Department of StateATTENTION: Director
Office of Libraries and Intelligence Acquisition

SUBJECT: State Cable from London, No. 4465, dated 7 April 1952

1. With reference to paragraph 1 in the above cable, the CIA estimate (NR-88) of USSR synthetic rubber production of 197,000 tons in 1952-53 agrees substantially with the estimate contained in the State contribution to the NIE-40 Working Group, dated 20 November 1951. This estimate was agreed to on the working level by OIR analysts. The slight difference is due to the use of the mid-1953 rate of production instead of an interpolated average for the year. The estimate of 172,000 tons quoted in the cable as the NIE-40 estimate is for the year 1951 and, therefore, is not the estimated production for the year 1952-53. Moreover, NR-88 specifically mentioned an increase in synthetic capacity of approximately 30,000 tons during 1951. The estimate by OIR of 220,000 to 270,000 tons for 1950 (Soviet Areas, OIR Report No. 4800.27), referred to in the cable, is dated March 1951 and was thought by OIR to have been superseded by subsequent estimates. The coordinated estimates prepared in connection with NIE-40 are dated 20 November 1951.

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It is easy to understand how an analyst, under the time pressure involved in NR-88, did not have time to ponder fully the nuances of this somewhat fuzzy language.

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